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Abolition of all allowances and certain posts in other provinces.

* 394 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact and whether the Government are aware that the Governments of Bombay, Assam, Bihar and United Provinces have recommended all allowances to be abolished in the case of all gazetted officers as a first measure of retrenchment;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the aforesaid provincial Governments have also recommended the abolition of the posts of Superintending Engineers, Deputy Inspectors-General of Police, Deputy Directors of Public Health, Deputy Directors of Public Instruction, and such other intermediary posts, in addition to the reduction in the strength of several other cadres; and

(*c*) if the information asked for in (*a*) and (*b*) is not in the possession of the Government, whether they propose to call for the same and lay it on the table of the House?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have no information.

(*c*) The information will be obtained and the Government will further consider, on obtaining it, the suggestion made.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I know whether the Government have since obtained information? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. Stokes:—" No, Sir."

Mr. Basheer Ahmeed Sayeed:—" May I know if they have taken steps to get it? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. Stokes:—" Yes, we have written to ask for the information."

Question of abolition of certain intermediary posts.

* 395 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have under consideration the question of abolishing intermediary posts, such as, the Superintending Engineers, Deputy Inspectors-General of Police, Deputy Directors of Public Health, Deputy Directors of Public Instruction, etc., as a measure of retrenchment;

(*b*) whether proposals on the above lines were placed before the Retrenchment Committee; and

(*c*) if not, why not?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) No.

(*c*) Under the procedure prescribed, the Retrenchment Committee is examining the expenditure of each department on its merits and the question whether the posts mentioned should be retained or not must depend on the nature of the work to be done in each department.

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Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I know what posts have been abolished so far? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES :—" Notice."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Retrenchment Committee has recommended any post to be abolished so far? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES :—" Yes, Sir; numerous posts."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I know whether a statement of them will be placed on the table."

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES :—" We have already placed the statement on the table? "

Consideration of the abolition of the posts of certain Deputy Collectors and Deputy Superintendents of Police.

* 396 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED : Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government or the Retrenchment Officer or ther Retrenchment Committee have examined the question of the abolition of at least one Deputy Collector in each district, one Deputy Superintendent of Police in each district and the re-organization of their divisions existing at present; and

(*b*) if so, what were the recommendations on this subject and what were the decisions arrived at by the Retrenchment Committee?

A.—(*a*) No. The question of redistributing charges in the Revenue Department is under consideration by the Board of Revenue, but it is being examined on its merits and not on the lines suggested by the hon. Member. The organisation of the Police department will shortly be examined by the Retrenchment Committee.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Consideration of the amalgamation of certain offices and the abolition of certain institutes by way of retrenchment.

* 397 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED : Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government or the Retrenchment Officer or the Retrenchment Committee have considered (i) the question of the amalgamation of the posts of the Director of Public Health with that of the Surgeon-General; and (ii) the question of the abolition of the Leather Trades Institute and the Industrial Engineers Workshop as a measure of retrenchment; and

(*b*) if so, what is the decision arrived at, and if not, why not?

A.—(*a*) The Retrenchment Committee have considered the question of amalgamating the two posts of the Surgeon-General and the Director of Public Health. They have not yet considered the question of abolishing the Leather Trades Institute and the Industrial Engineers Workshop.